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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/966,475	09/28/2001	Morrie Gasser	EMC01-08(01043)	6483

7590 04/22/2004

Barry W. Chapin, Esq.
CHAPIN & HUANG, L.L.C.
Westborough Office Park
1700 West Park Drive
Westborough, MA 01581

EXAMINER	
PESIN, BORIS M	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2174	4

DATE MAILED: 04/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/966,475	GASSER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Boris Pesin	2174	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-24,and 26-34 is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) 9 and 25 is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 10 and 26 recite the limitation "transparent group" in the last 2 lines of the claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claims.

The examiner believes that the applicant meant to say “terminal group”.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-8,11-24, and 27-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Microsoft Windows NT.

In regards to claim 1, Windows NT teaches a method for representing a resource in a computing system environment, the method comprising the steps of: creating an object to represent a resource in the computing system environment (See Figure 2, Creating a shortcut); assigning an object identifier to the object, the object identifier including at least a simple name of the object and a home of the object (See Figure 4, The user gets to select the name for the object, the home is inherently selected by the system where the object was created); displaying at least one representation of the

object on a graphical user interface (See Figure 5), each of the at least one representation of the object including the simple name of the object (See Figure 5); and wherein if a home condition exists for one of the at least one representation of the object displayed on the graphical user interface, the representation of the one of the at least one representation of the object further includes the home of the object, and if a home condition does not exist, the representation of the one of the at least one representation of the object displayed on the graphical user interface does not include the home of the object (Since there is only one file with the same name in the current hierarchy, no home condition exists, therefore there is no need to display the home name of the object).

In regards to claim 2, Windows NT teaches a method wherein the step of creating an object includes the step of: associating the object with at least one location within an object hierarchy such that the object becomes a child object of at least one parent object in the object hierarchy, the object hierarchy representing relationships between resources in the computing system environment which are represented by objects in the object hierarchy (See Figure 6, Element 1); wherein the at least one location to which the object is associated in the object hierarchy includes a home location identifying a home object in object hierarchy under which the object is initially associated as a child object (See Figure 6, "Autoexec.bat" is a file under the Desktop directory), so as to define a home context for the object; and wherein the step of assigning the object identifier assigns the home of the object to be the home location

identifying the home object for that object in object hierarchy (See Figure 6, the Desktop is defined to be the home of the object).

In regards to claim 3, Windows NT teaches a method wherein the step of assigning an object identifier to the object comprises the steps of: receiving a simple name for the object to uniquely identify that object (See Figure 4); and assigning a suffix (i.e. prefix) to the home of the object if the home of the object is not unique in the computing system environment, such that object identifiers for objects having a home that is not unique will be different from each other based on the suffix (See Figure 1, Element 1, There are two different ports with the name HPFAX and in order to differentiate the 2 ports, Windows puts a prefix with the home location of the port).

In regards to claim 4, Windows NT teaches a method wherein the home location to which the object is associated is a simple name included in an object identifier assigned to the home object associated with that home location, such that if a home condition exists, the at least one representation of the object displayed on the graphical user interface includes the simple name of the object followed by the simple name of the home object associated with the home location of the object (See Figure 1, Element 1, There are 2 different ports with the name HPFAX and in order to differentiate the two ports, Windows puts a prefix with the home location of the port).

In regards to claim 5, Windows NT teaches a method wherein the step of a displaying at least one representation of the object on a graphical user interface comprises the step of: displaying the object hierarchy on the graphical user interface to convey the relationships between resources in the computing system environment, such

that certain of the at least one location of the object in the object hierarchy is displayed on the graphical user interface (See Figure 6); and wherein a home condition exists for one of the at least one representation of the object displayed on the graphical user interface if displaying that representation of the object at that location in the object hierarchy in the graphical user interface causes one of: i) the object to be displayed out of a home context of the object (See Figure 1, Element 1); and ii) the object to be displayed non-uniquely in a context in which the object is displayed; such that the occurrence of a home condition causes the one of the at least one representation of the object to be displayed in a qualified manner in that location in the object hierarchy in the graphical user interface (See Figure 1, Element 1).

In regards to claim 6, Windows NT teaches a method wherein a home condition exists if a user of the graphical user interface indicates that representations of objects are to be displayed on the graphical user interface in a qualified manner, such that the at least one representation of the object displayed on the graphical user interface in a qualified manner includes the simple name of the object followed by the home of the object (See Figure 1, Element 1, the home of the object is followed by the name of the object).

In regards to claim 7, Windows NT teaches a method wherein the home object in the object hierarchy, for which the home location is identified by the home of the object, is a first non-transparent ancestral home object in the object hierarchy (See Figure 6, The Desktop is the ancestral home object).

In regards to claim 8, Windows NT teaches a method wherein the object is a group object created to represent a plurality of related resources in the computing system environment, such that objects in the object hierarchy below the group object share a common relationship to each other identified by the group object (See Figure 7, Element 1, the "New Folder" is a group object that can represent a plurality of related resources).

In regards to claim 11, Windows NT teaches a method wherein there are a plurality of objects represented in the object hierarchy and wherein the relationships between objects represented in the object hierarchy include functional relationships and organizational relationships between certain of the objects represented in the object hierarchy (See Figure 6); and wherein the step of a displaying at least one representation of the object on a graphical user interface includes the step of displaying the object hierarchy on the graphical user interface to convey the functional and organizational relationships between resources in the computing system environment (See Figure 6).

In regards to claim 12, Windows NT teaches a method wherein: the plurality of objects represented in the object hierarchy represent resources in the computing system environment including storage system resources, computing system resources, and storage area network resources (See Figure 6, its shows storage and computing system resources); wherein a user of the graphical user interface can manage resources associated with object in the object hierarchy via selection of representations of objects in the object hierarchy displayed on the graphical user interface (The user

can manage the resources via Figure 8); and wherein all objects containing a representation in the graphical user interface have a simple name and a home that combine to define a single name space for all objects in the computing system environment irrespective of what those objects represent (See Figure 6, all objects have a name, and the home is the current directory).

In regards to claim 13, Windows NT teaches a method wherein there are multiple representations of the same object within the object hierarchy and wherein representations of the object that appear in the graphical user interface in a non-home context are displayed in the graphical user interface in a fully qualified manner so as to indicate the simple name of the object followed by the home of the object (See Figure 1, Element 1, except that the home is followed by the simple name).

In regards to claim 14, Windows NT teaches a method further including the steps of moving the object to a new home location in the object hierarchy such that the object has a new home context (See Figure 8, the "Send To" command, or the user may simply cut and copy the object into a new directory (i.e. new home)); and determining if the simple name for the object uniquely identifies the object in the new home context for the object with respect to other object having the same home context, and if the simple name for the object does not uniquely identify the object in the new home context for the object, altering the simple name to provide a unique simple name for the object in the new home context (See Figure 8, the rename command).

In regards to claim 15, Windows NT teaches a method wherein the step of altering comprises appending a suffix to the end of the simple name of the object such

that the simple name uniquely identifies the object in the new home context (See Figure 1, Element 1, the name is appended to the home path to create a unique name).

In regards to claim 16, Windows NT teaches a method wherein the object can be represented in a fully qualified manner to indicate a specific instance of the resource associated with that object by representing the object with the simple name of the object followed by the home of the object (See Figure 1, Element 1, the name is appended to the home path to create a unique name).

Claim 17 is in the same context as claim 1; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale. The hardware aspects of the claim are inherently in Windows NT.

Claim 18 is in the same context as claim 2; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 19 is in the same context as claim 3; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 20 is in the same context as claim 4; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 21 is in the same context as claim 5; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 22 is in the same context as claim 6; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 23 is in the same context as claim 7; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 24 is in the same context as claim 8; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 27 is in the same context as claim 11; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 28 is in the same context as claim 12; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 29 is in the same context as claim 13; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 30 is in the same context as claim 14; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 31 is in the same context as claim 15; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 32 is in the same context as claim 16; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 33 is in the same context as claim 1; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 34 is in the same context as claim 1; therefore it is rejected under similar rationale. The hardware aspects of the claim are inherently in Windows NT.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9 and 25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Prior art does not teach creating a transparent group object and further having its children identify its home (the transparent group's home) as their home.

Claims 10 and 26 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Prior art does not teach creating a terminal group object and further having its children identify its home (the terminal group's home) as their home.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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Teaches a system for manipulating interfaces using different hierarchies.

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Boris Pesin whose telephone number is (703) 305-8774. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday except every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on (703) 308-0640. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kristine Kincaid

KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100